Review ot nuclear power programme

2481. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Russian scientist, Mr. Sakharov, is reported to have said that all nuclear reactors are inherently unsafe; and

(b) if so, whether our nuclear Power programme needs to be re.iewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALASUBRA-MON1YAN): (a) The reported statement of the Russian scientist Sakharov that all nuclear reactions are inherently unsafe is not understandable- There are several types of nuclear reactions, none of which is unsafe. If the reference is to nuclear "wctnrs". a well-desi?ned reactor, following correct operational procedure can be ojerated safely.

(b) The Pressurised Heavy Watc Reactors which are the mainstay of the Indian nuclei rower prnernm-mo offer certain intrinsic advantages with resorc(to vtfrty. somp of tries'-are inherently available w\ilr others are ipeciaTTy engineered safety system. Tin's is 'rflr-ffd in the satisfactory safety record of -wr nuclear reactors.

Equity fBflictptfWm Mw«?n XMMI IRF.L

24S"[1] 5HRT VAYALAR ,RAVT: Will ih- PR1MF MINISTER be pleated to state:

(a) wheth-r 0N C, <emmem of Ctnil h»< requeued far equity rnrtirpvirin r.f the Indian Rare Earths Umited flRELl W'th Kerala Metals and Minerals Limi- (KMML); and

(b) if sa, what steps Government have taken on the requejt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS I AND THE MINISTER OF STATE iN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. R. BALA-SUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal involves very 1 vrsje invcii-ments and hence participation of the Government, dire.tly ov through the Indian Rare Earths Ltd., is dependcat oft the availability of resources during the -Ninth Five Year Plan.

Sale of Light 'Water Reactors to India by Russia

2483. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Wll the PRIME MINISTER be plea-ed to state:

(a) whether Govei'.iment have taken 'aote o' the objection's raised by the USA in respect of sale of two Hr.ht water reactors for Kudankuhm Nuclear Power Plant in Tamil Nadu by Russia.

(b) what is the reaction of Rosbn authorities in re'Spect of the American objections to the sale of the said reac tors; and

fc) what is 'he present status of the *supply of the tarns by Russia?

THF M1NSTFR OF STATE IN TW MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GR.IFV\NCF.S A PENSIONS AND THB MINISTER OF STATE »N THE MIN-ISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. K. BALASUBRAMO have taken no'e of me lb near* i_n this re?ard. TV RnsHan authorities ha'e indicated cated that the isro-o^at to set UP *7 r* mnn MWc WFB tvne Licht Wal Rei-W Nuclar Power Station wonld not be aff-rted Vy *ihc* objection* raised b? the USA

(c) A supplement to the Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) of 1988 is under negotiation with the Russian Federation A few fin-ncjal terms reman to be settled ra the supplement to the Inter Governmental Agreement 1988. Following the settlement of pending issues the supplement is expected to be s'L'.ieJ at an early date paving the way for the pre-arp.tion of the Detailed Project Report.

Developing a prntotype for Fa[r]t Breed r Test Reactor

2484 SHR1 S. M. KRISHNA: Will th; PRIME MINISTER be p'eased to state:

(-i) when was the Fast Breeler Test Reactor IFBTR) at Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam comnvssioned, alongwith the details of 'he insta'led capacity and the capacity utilisition achieved during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to *penj Rs. 2500 crores fbr deve'o^'ns a pro'otype for a 500 MW FBTR during - the N'nth Five Year Plan; if so, whether 'he amount has been sanc'iMed:

1,1 whit are the derails of the proposal a'r>n"with detni's of estimated power H-lv to be nrotbiced under the proposal end the queantity of power presently « - 'i"if he given; and

(dl what is the present total requi re ment of nuclear power in the coun try the q'lVity of power pres ent produced?

THr MINISTER OF STVTF IN TUF M'MSTRY OF PERSONNEL. Pl'BI IC GRIEVANCES 'SO PVNMONS AND M1NBTES OF STATE IN THE sTRY OF P A R1f\M F N T \ R Y MRS 'SHRI S. R . BAI.ASI'BR let Test at the Indira Gandhi for Momic Rese *K* ifpnkkam is an experimental reactor. J It »ttajn»<J its first critic«dily on IWl October, 1985 with a small core. The reactor has an installed capacity of, 40 , Mega Watt (Thermal) (.i.e., MWt) and 13.2 Mega Watt (Electrical) i.e.. MWe) with a full core of 65 fuel sub-assemblies. The reactor has been used extensively for various physics and engineering experi-ments including irradiation and post-irradiation studes of carbide fuel. At present, the reactor js operating at the power level of about 12 MWt with 27 fuel sub-assemblies and generating about 1 MW of electricity. The turbogenerator of the reac'or was synchronised with the Tamil Nadu electrical grid in July, 1997. In 1996, the reactor operated at the power level of 10.5 MWt without generating electricity.

(b) and tc) A 500 MWe capacity Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) ha» been proposed for inclusion in the IX Plan starting with a provision of Rs. 82 crore in the year 1999-2000. The project,, estimated 'o cost Rs. 2960 crore is expected t_0 take. nine (9) years from 'he date of commen.ement of cc-astniction.

(d) The quantity of power produced by the Nuc'ear Power Station* during July, 1997 js 907 million units as against th; target of 600 million units. The n 2020 Programme of the Detriment o' A'omic Energy envisages about 20000 MWe of in-tailed MBaaitl by the year 2020 This is subject to approval of several new nuclear power project! and availability of funds.

I'raiii.im DrpojiU In Gu)ara

24U SHRI AHMP-D PATEXJ Will the PR I Nil MINISTER be pleased to vl ate:

(a) whether it is a fad that rectal urveyi urajvuni deposit* were found in irau

(SI If so what are the details thereof, rid

fct bv when Gas'eraanat aeaaeie •» Mart minof of uranium in the anam?